DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 78G-0195]

Valley Forest Resources, Inc.; Withdrawal of GRAS Affirmation Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the withdrawal, without prejudice to a future filing, of a petition (GRASP MF-3714) proposing to affirm that the use of ground whole aspen and ground aspen parts as a feedstuff for livestock are generally recognized as safe (GRAS).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon A. Benz, Center for Veterinary Medicine (HFV–228), Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855, 301–827–6657.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a notice published in the Federal Register of July 28, 1978 (43 FR 32864), FDA announced that a petition (GRASP MF–3714) had been jointly filed by Aspen Fiber Corp., P.O. Box 14, Marcell, MN 56657, and Fiber For, Inc., R.D. No. 4, Box 207, Prior Lake, MN 55372. This petition proposed to amend the GRAS regulations in 21 CFR part 582 to affirm that ground whole aspen and ground aspen parts used as a feedstuff for livestock are GRAS.

FDA spoke with a member of the Minnesota Office of Economic Opportunity, Minnesota Department of Economic Security, and a former employee of the Aspen Fiber Corp. Through these sources, FDA determined that Aspen Fiber Corp. has merged with Valley Forest Resources, Inc., HC 1 Box 76, Marcell, MN 56657. Valley Forest Resources agreed, by letter of April 2, 1998, to the withdrawal of the petition. FDA attempted to contact Fiber For, Inc., by letter of January

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28, 1998, but that letter was returned as undeliverable. FDA has been unable to locate the firm through directory assistance or the Internet.

The petition is withdrawn based on the letter from Valley Forest Resources, Inc., without prejudice to future filing.

Dated: 9//7/98
September 17, 1998

Stephen F. Sundlof

Center for Veterinary Medicine

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